

NEWS/Advisory

From the Office of

Bill Postmus

Chairman of the Board of Supervisors
San Bernardino County

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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POSTMUS, GONZALES TO SIGN AGREEMENT CONTINUING ADDITIONAL SHERIFF SUPPORT OF SAN BERNARDINO CITY ANTI-CRIME EFFORT

***-Today's Document Signing With Mayor Morris to Memorialize Agreement for County-City
Law Enforcement Effort Through End of 2006-***

SAN BERNARDINO – County Board of Supervisors Chairman Bill Postmus will be joined today by San Bernardino Mayor Patrick Morris and Fifth District Supervisor Josie Gonzales at a 3 p.m. signing ceremony at City Hall to authorize a continuation of a Sheriff's "Saturation Patrol" to work as a joint County-City task force targeting area crime for the rest of 2006.

The documents to be signed in the Mayor's Conference Room will include a County Directive to be issued by Chairman Postmus authorizing the use of \$285,723 from the County General Fund to cover the Sheriff's associated overtime costs, as well as a Joint Declaration between the County and City of San Bernardino pertaining to the need for the additional law enforcement services. Representatives from the Sheriff's Department and Police Department will be in attendance.

On November 22, 2005, the Board of Supervisors expressed concerns regarding the increase in criminal gang activity, including several murders, in the City of San Bernardino, and requested that the Sheriff to return to the Board with a plan to assist the San Bernardino Police Department in addressing these issues.

Effective December 2, 2005, the Sheriff assigned 2 sergeants and 10 deputies to participate in an interagency task force targeting crime in the City of San Bernardino and

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surrounding unincorporated area. The offensive was in the form of a month-long saturation patrol, working in conjunction with the San Bernardino Police Department and the California Highway Patrol.

On December 6, 2005, the Board of Supervisors authorized the use of \$105,472 in Contingency funding for this purpose for the month of December 2005. The saturation patrol later resumed at the direction of the Sheriff at a level of 1 sergeant and 6 deputies for the nine weeks leading up to September 2, 2006, at an additional cost of \$151,264.80.

The additional patrol for the past nine weeks has been effective, resulting in more than 1,700 criminal arrests. Therefore, Postmus and Gonzales are asking the Sheriff to resume the saturation patrol in order to work with the Police Department to effectively target crime in the City and nearby unincorporated areas through the end of 2006. The two Supervisors will ask the Board of Supervisors to ratify the additional appropriation at its September 12 meeting. The urgency of the request is due to the fact that the Board of Supervisors learned of the expiration of the nine-week supplemental patrol shortly before its expiration on Sept. 2, and because Supervisors Postmus and Gonzales want to avoid an interruption in the additional service prior to the weekend of September 8-10.

If the Board of Supervisors approves the additional funds, the total financial assistance to the City of San Bernardino by the end of 2006 for this effort will be \$542,460.